



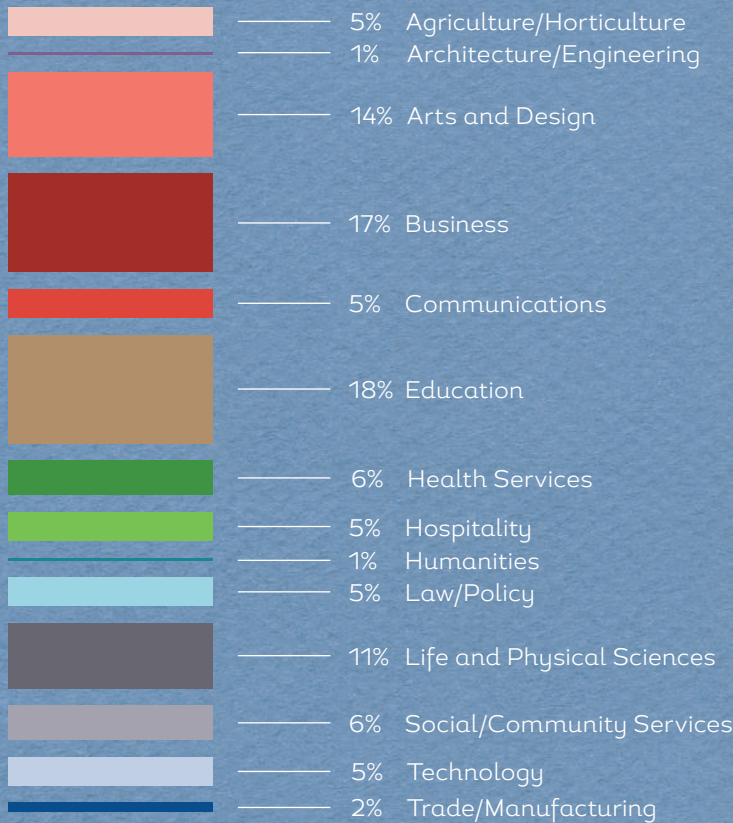
BEYOND COA

The Value of a Degree in Human Ecology

Q: What do COA graduates do with a degree in human ecology?

A: Just about **everything** you can imagine.

WHERE OUR ALUMNI WORK



Employers include:

- Center for International Environmental Law
- Chicago Botanical Gardens
- Dry Bed Creek Farm
- Edward Jones Financial Services
- Fiddleheads Forest School
- Greenpeace
- Maine Biofuels
- Museum of Science, Boston
- National Park Service
- Norman Rockwell Museum
- Perkins and Will Architects
- The Jackson Laboratory
- The Nature Conservancy
- UNICEF
- United States Congress

WITHIN 1 YEAR OF GRADUATION

54% work at a job in their field

26% start graduate school

WITHIN 5 YEARS OF GRADUATION

60% attend graduate school

Most frequently attended graduate schools:

- American University
- Boston University
- College of the Atlantic
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Harvard University
- Northeastern University
- Tufts University
- University of California
- University of Copenhagen
- University of Maine
- University of Southern Maine
- Yale School of Forestry

“I regularly reflect on how COA facilitated my identification and pursuit of my passion while leaving me better prepared for advanced studies than many of my friends from more traditional institutions.”

Yaniv Brandvain '04, PhD

Assistant Professor,
Department of Plant Biology,
University of Minnesota

HANDS-ON, EXPERIENTIAL WORK IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THEIR CAREERS

BEFORE GRADUATION...

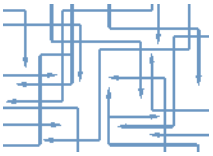
100% of COA students complete a 450-hour internship.

100% of COA students design and implement a capstone senior project.

COA GRADUATES SAY ...



92% "COA taught me critical thinking skills."



98% "COA prepared me to work on complex issues."



92% "COA prepared me for creative problem solving."



92% "I'm doing work that strives for positive change in the world."



92% "I'm doing work that's meaningful to me."

"I think the most valuable skill I gained while at COA was to consider decisions holistically and from the perspective of many different stakeholders. Every single day at work, I have to be cognizant that the land use recommendations that I make will affect a variety of stakeholders in different ways."

Erin Heacock Zwirko '04, MS

Assistant Planning Director, City of Melrose, MA



IRIS LOWERY '09, JD

Attorney, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

"I decided to attend COA because I wanted to be close to the ocean, but also because I was drawn to COA's interdisciplinary academic philosophy and self-directed curriculum. After I decided to attend law school, my professors helped me obtain a grant to complete a molecular biology study at the MDI Biological Laboratory for my senior project. I can't imagine another college where an undergraduate on a policy track, planning to attend law school, would have such an incredible opportunity."



JUAN OLMEDO DE LA SOTA-RIVA '12

Company Representative, Agro-Productores del Rincón, Mexico

"COA taught me to think outside of the box. I considered myself a technician and the college turned me into a human ecologist, seeing the complexities beyond technical issues. Now I cannot see anything without seeing the big picture."